**Average Annual Production of Coal**

†3453. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal in the country are procured from underground and open cast mines;

(b) if so, the average annual production of coal made during the last five years from underground and open cast mines with its percentage from each one;

(c) whether it is a fact that there lies a big quantity of coal deposit in the underground coal mines of the country; and

(d) if so, the details of estimate in respect of its quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS [DR. (SMT.) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Annual production of coal from Opencast and Underground mines with its percentage share for the last five years is given below:—

(*quantity in million tonnes*)

| Year | Open Cast | | Underground | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Share% | Quantity | Share% |
| 1995-96 | 198.273 | 73.39 | 71.894 | 26.61 |
| 1996-97 | 215.128 | 75.20 | 70.952 | 24.80 |
| 1997-98 | 228.141 | 76.77 | 69.028 | 23.23 |
| 1998-99 | 224.509 | 76.82 | 67.761 | 23.18 |
| 1999-2000 | 233.323 | 77.76 | 66.734 | 22.24 |

(c) and (d) The national coal reserves upto depth of 1200 meters have been estimated by GSI as 211 billion tonnes as on 1.1.2000 of which 72.2 billion tonnes has been estimated to be recoverable proved reserves. 53% of the recoverable proved reserves is amendable to underground mining.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.